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# INFORMATION REPORT

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DATE DISTR. 15 SEP 50

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT Topics Discussed at CDU "Referenten" Conference

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

1. At the conference of CDU Referenten from Brandenburg on Wednesday, 19 July 1950, the composition of the lists of candidates for the October elections was discussed. It was pointed out that the delegates to the Volkskammer from East Berlin will have a voice but no vote in Volkskammer matters, so that members of the main zonal executive committee (Hauptzonenvorstand) and the ministers will have to be placed on the lists of L nder candidates. At the conference the stand was taken that it is not wise for the Land secretaries (Landessekret re) to be nominated as candidates for both the Volkskammer and Landtage at the same time.
2. By the terms of the original bloc agreement the mass organizations were to name their candidates according to a distribution key so that the individual parties would twice receive consideration. According to information reaching the chief office of the VdgB, this body, however, can nominate only five candidates for the Volkskammer, so that it can consider only the Zonal Chairman and four of the five Land Chairmen. These officials, however, are all SED members. G tting stated that this procedure is inadmissible and that the CDU should take steps to secure the nomination of at least one CDU candidate on the VdgB list.\*
3. The zonal Party Convention of the CDU will probably have to be postponed once again. From 8 September until 10 September 1950 a VVN meeting is scheduled to take place in Berlin, and the Party wants to delay the Union Party Convention until 15 to 17 September. But as it has now turned out, a huge exhibition of the German Agricultural Society is set for the same date, so that the possibility exists that the Convention cannot be held until September 22 through 24.\*\*
4. It was announced that Haeckel, former CDU press president, has resigned. He is to be replaced, but no successor has to date been named. Haeckel had not been active in the performance of his duties since the Eisenach Conference, but no reason was given for his resignation.
5. In the future, the Referat for Economic Affairs will be headed by Dr. Brandes, who will, at the same time, maintain his position as chief of the Referat for Agricultural Matters.

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[REDACTED] Comment: This would mean that FDGB, FDJ, etc., would have to nominate CDU members for 15 per cent of the seats allotted them. It is hardly likely that the original bloc agreement was so intended.

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[REDACTED] Comment: Because of the feeling shared by both East and West factions of the CDU that that faction which holds the Party Convention later than the other will enjoy a tactical advantage, neither group appears willing to announce the date of its convention.

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